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**S**erial No: Not Yet Assigned  
**F**iled: Herewith  
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**A**mendments to Claims:

Please cancel Claims 15-19, 22-23, 25, 27-36, and 39-44 without prejudice or  
**d**isclaimer, and amend Claims 11, 12, 14 and 20 as set forth below.

1. (Original) An oxygenated hemoglobin in powdered form.
2. (Original) The oxygenated hemoglobin of claim 1, wherein the hemoglobin  
**i**s resistant to oxidation.
3. (Original) The oxygenated hemoglobin of claim 1, wherein the hemoglobin  
**i**s stable at room temperature.
4. (Original) The oxygenated hemoglobin of claim 1, wherein the hemoglobin  
**i**s pegylated.
5. (Original) A composition of powdered hemoglobin comprising the  
**o**xxygenated hemoglobin of claim 1 and no more than 20% of the met form of hemoglobin.
6. (Original) A method of preparing a powdered form of a protein, which  
**c**omprises:
  - (a) mixing a solution of the protein with inulin, and
  - (b) drying the mixture.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the inulin is derived from  
**C**hicory Root.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 6, which further comprises mixing a solution of the protein with inulin and with a reducing sugar, and then drying the mixture.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the reducing sugar is glucose.
10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the reducing sugar is tagatose.
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 ~~or 8~~, wherein the drying step comprises lyophilization.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 ~~or 8~~, wherein the drying step comprises air drying.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the mixture is cooled as it is being air dried.
14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 ~~or 8~~, wherein the protein is hemoglobin.
- 15-19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a blood substitute which comprises reconstituting the powdered hemoglobin of claim 1 ~~or 18~~.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 20 which comprises dissolving the powdered hemoglobin in an aqueous buffer solution.

22-23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) A blood substitute prepared by the method of claim 20.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) A method of treating a subject which comprises administering the blood substitute of claim 24 to the subject.

27-36. (Canceled)

37. (Original) The pegylated hemoglobin of claim 4, which comprises one or more polyethylene glycol (PEG) molecules with a molecular weight of 200-40,000 daltons.

38. (Original) The pegylated hemoglobin of claim 4, wherein the hemoglobin is pegylated with 2-8 PEGs.

39-44. (Canceled)